

damping material support structure in addition to being supported by the plurality of struts.

29. (New) The head suspension of claim 24, in which the proximal end of the load beam region comprises a partially etched mass adjustment area.

REMARKS

These Remarks are in reply to the non-final Office Action mailed April 6, 2007. Claim 1 has been amended, claims 12-20 have been canceled and claims 21-29 have been added, such that claims 1-11 and 21-29 remain pending.

Election/Restriction

The withdrawal of claim 12-16 from consideration is acknowledged. These claims have now been canceled.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-7 and 17-19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,778,362 to Davis et al. (hereinafter "Davis").

Claim 1 as amended recites "a mounting region", "a bend member" and a closed aperture bounded about its entire periphery by the bend member and the mounting region." The Office asserts that Davis discloses a mounting region 168, a bend member 180 and an aperture bounded by the bend member 180 and mounting region 168. However, Davis's Fig. 9A and 9B clearly show that the alleged "aperture" noted by the Office is open and not closed as currently claimed. For at least this reason, Davis does not anticipate claim 1, and withdrawal and allowance of the claims are respectfully requested.

Claims 2-7 depend from claim 1 and are allowable for at least this reason, and allowance of these claims is respectfully requested.

Claims 17-19 have been canceled.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 8-11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Davis in view of U.S. Patent Publication 2002/0141114 to Wittig et al. (hereinafter "Wittig").

Claims 8-11 depend from claim 1 and are allowable for at least this reason. As set forth above, Davis alone does not anticipate claim 1 as amended, and the addition of Wittig does not remedy the deficiencies noted with respect to Davis. Allowance of claims 8-11 is respectfully requested.

Newly Added Claims

Claims 21-29 have been added and are believed to further define the invention over the prior art.

Conclusion

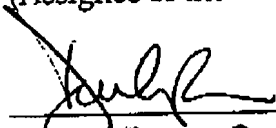
For reasons set forth above, Applicant respectfully asserts that present claims particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which is regarded as the invention. In addition, the present invention as claimed is not taught by the prior art of record or any combination thereof. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that the pending claims are in condition for allowance, and favorable action with respect to the present application is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner is not satisfied, but minor changes would apparently put the present case in condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

Seagate Technology LLC
(Assignee of the Entire Interest)

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Date


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